

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 FEA-02 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 NEA-14 DRC-01 /204 W

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R 291824Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1216

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 18382

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARDS ENERGY COOPERATION

REF: STATE 162865

1. DURING FRENCH ECONOMICS MINISTER FOURCADE'S WORKING

DINNER FOR SECRETARY SIMON JULY 23, THERE WAS DISCUS-

SION OF FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARDS ONGOING WORK OF ECG

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AND IEP. BROSSOLETTE, ELYSEE SECRETARY GENERAL,

ACTED AS FRENCH SPOKESMAN ON THIS SUBJECT: HE EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES WERE NOT HAPPY TO SEE CONSUMING COUNTRIES REACH UNDERSTANDINGS AMONG THEMSELVES DESIGNED TO COPE WITH NEW EMERGENCY. FRENCH WONDERED, HE SAID, WHETHER US CONGRESS WOULD EVER VOTE NECESSARY AUTHORITY TO RESTRICT ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN US IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT SHARING ARRANGEMENT FOR BENEFIT OF OTHERS. THUS THEY WERE RELUCTANT TO JEOPARDIZE THEIR PRESENT FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH OIL PRODUCERS BY ASSOCIATING THEMSELVES WITH AN ARRANGEMENT THAT MIGHT IN THE END NOT AMOUNT TO MUCH. BROSSOLETTE ADDED THAT THEY WERE ALSO TROUBLED BY FACT THAT IEP APPARENTLY DID NOT SPECIFY THAT IN AN EMERGENCY, COUNTRIES ABLE TO DO SO WOULD INCREASE THEIR PRODUCTION. THEY HAD IN MIND US, CANADA, NORWAY AND, LATER ON, UK.

2. BROSSOLETTE'S COMMENTS INDICATE THAT GOF REMAINS SKEPTICAL ABOUT SOME ELEMENTS OF PROPOSED IEP AND HAS NOT YET DETERMINED WHICH WAY TO GO. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT, AFTER DELIBERATION, GOF MAY YET DECIDE TO ASSOCIATE SELF WITH IEP BUT CONCUR WITH DEPARTMENT'S JUDGMENT (REFTEL), THAT WE NOW LEAVE THEM TO SORT OUT THIS DECISION ON THEIR OWN. IN THE MEANWHILE, IN EMBASSY'S VIEW, US SHOULD INSURE DOOR KEPT OPEN TO EVENTUAL FRENCH PARTICIPATION BUT SHOULD NOT TAILOR ECG ACTIVITIES IN EFFORT TO WOO FRENCH.
STONE

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